

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

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FOLLOWING REPEAT VIENNA 656 ACTION SECSTATE INFO EC
BRUSSELS GENEVA USUN NEW YORK OECD PARIS 27 JANUARY.

QUOTE

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID EGEN OCON US UNIDO

SUBJ: UNIDO: RESUMED FIFTH SESSION OF PERMANENT COMMITTEE

REF : VIENNA 0655

SUMMARY. GROUP OF 77 STATEMENT TO INFORMAL WORKING GROUP BY
JAMAICAN AMBASSADOR WAS STRIDENT AND UNCOMPROMISING, INDICATING
G-77 INTENDS EXPLOIT UNIDO-II AS OPPORTUNITY TO PRESS FOR WIDE
RANGE OF ECONOMIC DEMANDS AS FOLLOW-UP TO 6THS PECIAL SESSION
OF GA AND PREPARATORY TO 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. GROUP B COUNTRIES
GENERALLY PESSIMISTIC OF CHANCES FOR REACHING CONSENSUS AT LIMA
ALTHOUGH IT AGREED IN GROUP NOT TO PREPARE FOR WORST UNTIL SEEING
RESULTS OF ALGIERS MEETING OF G-77. END SUMMARY.

1. PC-V TURNED INTO INFORMAL WORKING GROUP MORNING JAN 24 IN

ACCORDANCE WITH DECISION OF JANUARY 22 (SEE REFTEL). JAMAICAN
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AMBASSADOR WALKER (GENEVA-BASED AND EXPERIENCED IN UNCTAD), AS

SPOKESMAN FOR G-77, DELIVERED ARTICULATE, STRIDENT AND EMOTIONAL STATEMENT WHICH REFLECTED UNWILLINGNESS OF G-77 TO COMPROMISE ON SUCH PRINCIPLES AS: (1) OPPOSITION TO COLONIALISM; (2) INDEXATION; (3) SOVEREIGNTY AND PERMANENT CONTROL OVER NATURAL RESOURCES; (4) CONTROLS FOR INTERNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND; (5) FORMULATION OF PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATIONS. HE IMPLIED THAT NEW GROUP B TEXT, WHICH HAD JUST BEEN CIRCULATED IN ENGLISH ONLY, WAS NOT FORTHCOMING ON G-77 DEMANDS ALTHOUGH HE ADDED SHORT TIME AND LACK OF TRANSLATIONS PRECLUDED ANY DETAILED REACTION TO IT. WALKER REFERRED TO PRESENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION AS "UNFORTUNATE AND INTOLERABLE" ADDING " AT TIMES WE ARE DUMBOUNDED BY INSENSITIVITIES OF INDUSTRIALIZED WORLD."

2. USSR WELCOMED WALKER STATEMENT, AND REITERATED USUAL PROPAGANDISTIC THEME THAT SOCIALIST AND G-77 HAVE SIMILAR VIEWS AND INTERESTS AND THAT INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES OF WEST PREFER TO IGNORE RATHER THAN FACE LDC PROBLEMS.

3. JAPAN, US AND NETHERLANDS BORE BRUNT OF RESPONSE FOR GROUP B. FORMER, WHILE EXPRESSING WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE ON SEVERAL ISSUES, ASKED G-77 TO STATE PRIORITIES SO JAPAN WOULD KNOW WHERE TO CONCENTRATE EFFORTS. US ASKED G-77 TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY GROUP B DRAFT WHICH HAD BEEN CAREFULLY CRAFTED TO G-77 DOCUMENT. WE REITERATED OUR POSITIONS ON MAIN ITEMS OF G-77 PAPER WITH VIEW TO INTERJECTING SUBSTANCE AND REALITY IN ORDER COUNTER WHAT APPEARS INCREASING PRACTICE OF G-77 TO TREAT ISSUES AS SLOGANS. WE PARTICULARLY STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF CONSIDERING ISSUES WITHIN CONTEXT OF ENTIRE UN SYSTEM AND POINTED OUT THAT SEVERAL MAJOR CONCERNS OF G-77 ARE PRESENTLY UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION BY VARIOUS UN BODIES. LATTER THEME WAS FORCEFULLY AND HELPFULLY ECHOES BY DUTCH WHO CITED SEVERAL CASES. FRENCH DELEGATION, IN WHAT ONLY CAN BE DESCRIBED AS DISHONEST AND POLITICALLY MOTIVATED STATEMENT, CLAIMED FRANCE HAD NO DISAGREEMENT WITH G-77 ON SUBSTANCE BUT ONLY TONE. UNDOUBTEDLY, FRENCH WILL PLAY OWN GAME AT LIMA.

4. NO G-77 DELEGATION RESPONDED TO GROUP B STATEMENTS. ALTHOUGH LATE CIRCULATION AND LACK OF TRANSLATIONS OF GROUP B PAPER MIGHT HELP EXPLAIN THIS, IT SEEMS LIKELY G-77 WERE NOT INTERESTED IN USING FACILITY OF INFORMAL WORKING GROUP TO HAVE MEANINGFUL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXCHANGE DESPITE ASSURANCES THAT NO COMMITMENTS WERE TO BE ASKED OR GIVEN.

5. AS WORKING GROUP LASTED ONLY HALF DAY GROUP B MET SAME AFTERNOON TO TAKE STOCK OF SITUATION AND PLAN NEXT STEPS. WHILE NO DELEGATION WANTED TO APPEAR TOO PESSIMISTIC, TENOR OF STATEMENTS INDICATED GENERAL BELIEF THAT G-77 WILL HAVE THEIR DOCUMENT

APPROVED T ALGIERS AND ADOPT UNCOMPROMISING POSTUER AT LIMA.
SOME GROUP B DELEGATIONS SAID THEY WERE PREPARED TO GO FURTHER
THAN PRESENT GROUP B DRAFT. US, FRG, UK AND JAPAN ALL INDICATED
THEY WERE PREPARED TO HOLD THE LINE AS NECESSARY.

6. FRENCH-INSPIRED EXERCISE OF AMENDING G-77 TEXT (SEE REFTTEL)
WILL CONTINUE BY OPEN-ENDED DRAFTING GROUP, ALTHOUGH NO DECISION
WAS TAKEN AS TO WHAT TO DO WITH FINAL PRODUCT. GROUP B DECIDED
TO MEET WHEN DOCUMENT OF ALGIERS MEETING IS AVAILABLE AND TO
MEET IN LIMA MARCH 10-11 TO MAP OUT FINAL STRATEGY.

7. FINAL PLENARY PC-V SCHEDULED JAN 27. STIBRAVY UNQUOTE
KISSINGER

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